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57-1575

67-5586

10 May 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)

SUBJECT : Panel of Senior Advisors in Psychiatry

1. Paragraph 7 of this memorandum contains a recommendation for the approval of the Deputy Director (Support).

2. The Agency psychiatric program was initiated approximately five years ago. Its primary objective was to establish a selection program designed to determine the emotional suitability of employees and prospective employees. The program also provided for the treatment of psychiatric cases in specific instances.

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3. The selection program has been established. During the calendar year 1956, [redacted] individuals were screened and [redacted] personnel interviews accomplished. With the establishment of the selection program, it has been possible to direct attention to therapeutic activities. During the past four months, [redacted] diagnostic and therapeutic interviews have been held.

4. In addition to the foregoing, psychiatric activities have extended into the fields of mental hygiene and operational support. The mental hygiene program is primarily research in nature and is designed for, and at the request of, the DD/I. The operational support activities are broad in nature and consist of evaluation of agents and defectors, agent management problems, technical advice on programs and projects, and studies with DD/P staffs as to the possible application of psychiatric principles to operations. As a result of these studies, psychiatric principles are to be incorporated in training doctrine. Present discussions with the DD/P and the Director of Training are in regard course content.

5. It is evident from the foregoing that the psychiatric program has grown considerably since its inception. The degree of growth and scope of endeavor requires that our psychiatric effort on behalf of the Agency represent the best of contemporary thought. While our present staff possesses a high degree of qualification, the field of psychiatry is so broad and advancing so rapidly that no one group can possibly keep pace with its development.

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6. Deliberate evaluation of the role of the psychiatric program and our staff capabilities has led to the belief that we would profit the Agency through the obtaining of the advisory consultative services of a Panel of Advisors of national prominence. Proposed Panel members would be broadly knowledgeable of other psychiatric programs and research efforts and collectively able to evaluate their importance and potential contribution to psychiatric programs of the Agency. Such members would meet collectively to be oriented as required on Agency problems and psychiatric programs and would be called into consultation on an ad hoc basis to advise with regard particular psychiatric projects. To achieve the breadth required, six or eight consultants with varied programmatic and sub-specialty backgrounds would be required (Tab A).

7. It is recommended that the Chief, Medical Staff, be authorized to establish a Panel of Senior Advisors in Psychiatry as proposed and that an annual allocation of \$15,000 be approved for such purpose (Tab B).

SIGNED
JOHN R. TIETJEN M.D.

JOHN R. TIETJEN, M.D.
Chief, Medical Staff

The recommendation contained in Paragraph 7 is approved. subject to the availability of funds in connection with which Chief, Medical Staff, should consult with the Comptroller. /s/ LBN

Deputy Director (Support)

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Attachments:

Tab A
Tab B

MS/JT/Tietjen:ms

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